

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

H.J.R. 28, § 2

SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held September 13, 2003. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment permitting refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage."

Passed by the House on April 9, 2003: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.J.R. No. 23 on May 26, 2003: Yeas 135, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2003: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Filed with the Secretary of State May 27, 2003.

H.J.R. No. 28

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment providing for authorization of the borrowing of money on a short-term basis by a state transportation agency for transportation-related projects, and the issuance of bonds and other public securities secured by the state highway fund.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Sections 49-m and 49-n to read as follows:

Sec. 49-m. (a) The legislature, by law, may authorize the Texas Transportation Commission or its successor to authorize the Texas Department of Transportation or its successor to issue notes or borrow money from any source to carry out the functions of the department.

(b) Notes issued or a loan obtained under this section may not have a term of more than two years. The legislature may appropriate money dedicated by Sections 7-a and 7-b, Article VIII, of this constitution for the purpose of paying a debt created by the notes or loan.

Sec. 49-n. (a) To fund highway improvement projects, the legislature may authorize the Texas Transportation Commission or its successor to issue bonds and other public securities and enter into bond enhancement agreements that are payable from revenue deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

(b) In each fiscal year in which amounts become due under the bonds, other public securities, or agreements authorized by this section, there is appropriated from the revenue deposited to the credit of the state highway fund in that fiscal year an amount that is sufficient to pay:

(1) the principal of and interest on the bonds or other public securities that mature or become due during the fiscal year; and

(2) any cost related to the bonds and other public securities, including payments under bond enhancement agreements, that becomes due during that fiscal year.

(c) Any dedication or appropriation of revenue to the credit of the state highway fund may not be modified so as to impair any outstanding bonds or other public securities secured by a pledge of that revenue unless provisions have been made for a full discharge of those securities.

SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held September 13, 2003. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing for authorization of the issuing of notes or the borrowing of money on a short-term basis by a state transportation agency for transportation-related projects, and the issuance of bonds and other public securities secured by the state highway fund."

Passed by the House on April 29, 2003: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.J.R. No. 28 on May 29, 2003, by a non-record vote, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; the House adopted the conference committee report on H.J.R. No. 28 on June 1, 2003: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003:

Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.J.R. No. 28 on June 1, 2003: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Filed with the Secretary of State June 3, 2003.

H.J.R. No. 44

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment to permit a six-person jury in a district court misdemeanor trial.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 13, Article V, Texas Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 13. Grand and petit juries in the District Courts shall be composed of twelve persons, *except that petit juries in a criminal case below the grade of felony shall be composed of six persons*; but nine members of a grand jury shall be a quorum to transact business and present bills. In trials of civil cases ~~[-and in trials of criminal cases below the grade of felony]~~ in the District Courts, nine members of the jury, concurring, may render a verdict, but when the verdict shall be rendered by less than the whole number, it shall be signed by every member of the jury concurring in it. When, pending the trial of any case, one or more jurors not exceeding three, may die, or be disabled from sitting, the remainder of the jury shall have the power to render the verdict; provided, that the Legislature may change or modify the rule authorizing less than the whole number of the jury to render a verdict.

SECTION 2. The proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held September 13, 2003. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to permit a six-person jury in a district court misdemeanor trial."

Passed by the House on May 2, 2003: Yeas 135, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.J.R. No. 44 on May 30, 2003: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Filed with the Secretary of State June 2, 2003.

H.J.R. No. 51

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment to establish a two-year period for the redemption of a mineral interest sold for unpaid ad valorem taxes at a tax sale.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Sections 13(c) and (d), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, are amended to read as follows:

(c) The former owner of a residence homestead ~~[sold for unpaid taxes and the former owner of]~~ land designated for agricultural use, *or a mineral interest* sold for unpaid taxes shall within two years from date of the filing for record of the Purchaser's Deed have the right to redeem the property on the following basis:

(1) Within the first year of the redemption period, upon the payment of the amount of money paid for the property, including the Tax Deed Recording Fee and all taxes, penalties, interest, and costs paid plus an amount not exceeding 25 percent of the aggregate total; and

(2) Within the last year of the redemption period, upon the payment of the amount of money paid for the property, including the Tax Deed Recording Fee and all taxes, penalties, interest, and costs paid plus an amount not exceeding 50 percent of the aggregate total.